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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hikaru SAKAMOTO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/857,187

Filed: June 20, 2001

For: **PROCESS FOR PRODUCING LEAD-ACID BATTERY AND JIG FOR PRODUCING LEAD-ACID BATTERY**

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SEP 21 2001  
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Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

174/5

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 30, 2001

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Each of the listed documents was cited in the International Search Report (copy enclosed) of Applicants' corresponding International Application No. PCT/JP00/07494. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

Applicants: **Hikaru SAKAMOTO, et al.**  
Serial No.: **09/857,187**

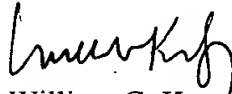
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The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: International Search Report  
PTO-1449 and Ten (10) references